

**MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

December 3, 2014  
MAG Office, Saguaro Room  
Phoenix, Arizona

**MEMBERS ATTENDING**

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| Mayor Michael LeVault, Youngtown, Chair                     | #Mayor Rebecca Jimenez, Guadalupe                                    |
| Mayor W. J. "Jim" Lane, Scottsdale,<br>Vice Chair           | Mayor Thomas Schoaf, Litchfield Park                                 |
| Vice Mayor Robin Barker, Apache Junction                    | Mayor Christian Price, City of Maricopa                              |
| * Mayor Kenneth Weise, Avondale                             | * Supervisor Steve Chucuri, Maricopa County                          |
| * Mayor Jackie Meck, Buckeye                                | Mayor John Giles, Mesa   |
| Councilmember Mike Farrar, Carefree                         | * Mayor Scott LeMarr, Paradise Valley                                |
| Councilmember Reginald Monachino,<br>Cave Creek             | * Mayor Bob Barrett, Peoria  |
| # Mayor Jay Tibshraeny, Chandler                            | * Mayor Greg Stanton, Phoenix  |
| Mayor Lana Mook, El Mirage                                  | * Supervisor Todd House, Pinal County                                |
| * Mayor Tom Rankin, Florence                                | Mayor Gail Barney, Queen Creek                                       |
| * President Ruben Balderas, Fort<br>McDowell Yavapai Nation | * President Diane Enos, Salt River<br>Pima-Maricopa Indian Community |
| Mayor Linda Kavanagh, Fountain Hills                        | * Mayor Sharon Wolcott, Surprise                                     |
| Mayor Chuck Turner, Gila Bend                               | Mayor Mark Mitchell, Tempe   |
| * Governor Gregory Mendoza, Gila River Indian<br>Community  | * Mayor Adolfo Gamez, Tolleson                                       |
| Mayor John Lewis, Gilbert                                   | * Mayor John Cook, Wickenburg  |
| Mayor Jerry Weiers, Glendale                                | Mr. Roc Arnett, Citizens Transportation<br>Oversight Committee       |
| Mayor Georgia Lord, Goodyear                                | * Mr. Joseph La Rue, State Transportation Board                      |
|   | Mr. Jack Sellers, State Transportation Board                         |

\* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

# Attended by telephone conference call.

+ Attended by videoconference

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting of the MAG Regional Council was called to order by Chair Michael LeVault at 11:35 a.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Jay Tibshraeny and Mayor Rebecca Jimenez joined the meeting by teleconference.

Chair LeVault welcomed back to the Regional Council Mayor Chuck Turner of Gila Bend.

Chair LeVault noted that materials for agenda items #5B and #6 were at each place.

Chair LeVault noted that hearing assisted devices were available from MAG staff. Chair LeVault requested that members of the public who would like to comment fill out a blue public comment card for the Call to the Audience agenda item, or a yellow public comment card for Consent Agenda items or items on the agenda for action. Transit tickets for those who purchased a transit ticket to attend the meeting and parking validation were available from staff.

### 3. Call to the Audience

Chair LeVault noted that the Call to the Audience provides an opportunity to members of the audience who wish to speak on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens are requested to not exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes is provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit. Those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.

Before hearing public comment, Chair LeVault noted that he is a believer in providing the public with the opportunity to speak, but as Chair, he will not allow personal attacks. He reminded the public that MAG is a council of governments and does not have jurisdiction over municipalities or member agencies. Chair LeVault suggested that a municipality's council might be a better forum for an individual to present their problem.

Chair LeVault recognized public comment from Mr. Marvin Rochelle, who remarked that there were many accomplishments this year, in particular the office in Mexico City to promote trade with Mexico. He noted that this will interlink with Interstate 11. Mr. Rochelle stated that many people oppose toll roads because they do not understand them. He stated that toll roads save time and fuel for a relatively low cost of 50 cents or 75 cents. Mr. Rochelle stated that traffic delays cost more in time and fuel than the toll. He requested that he be provided an update on the status of the promised light rail in the West Valley, which is needed because of traffic congestion. Mr. Rochelle stated that his trip from Loop 101 area to the meeting took 38 minutes because traffic was backed up. He wished everyone a wonderful Christmas or Hanukkah. Chair LeVault thanked Mr. Rochelle for his comments.

Chair LeVault recognized public comment from Mr. Pat Vint, who thanked Chair LeVault for his comments on what the citizens can do or think. He stated that this country is close to race riots and he wanted everyone to listen closely to what he was going to say. Mr. Vint stated that Detective Tony Davis is his personal bodyguard and he respects him and does not care what color a person is. He stated that the problem starts at the top – with the President of the United States, with Eric Holder, the undesirable Reverends Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson. Mr. Vint stated that the black news media are the worst of all and are inciting riots. He informed the Regional Council that if they cannot address

problems at MAG they should not come to meetings. Mr. Vint noted that neither his mayor nor manager was present at the meeting. He stated that bad people are taking over. Mr. Vint stated that the young people in the news media today are a bunch of idiots and are controlled. He said they are crazy and believe that the United States is a filthy nation and that is what Obama thinks. Chair LeVault thanked Mr. Vint for his comments.

Chair LeVault recognized public comment from Mr. John Rusinek, who stated that he has commented at MAG many times on dust, discrimination, and retaliation. He passed around a picture of gravel. Mr. Rusinek stated that a four-home gated community development is being built on the lot next door to his house. He explained that a gravel-paved turnaround driveway is among the plans. Mr. Rusinek stated that the size of the gravel on the property to the west of his lot is the correct size, but the gravel to the east of his property is not – it is one-inch gravel and has grass growing through. He stated that the owner was given a variance by the City of Phoenix. Mr. Rusinek was reading a portion of the ordinance. His time expired and Chair LeVault asked Mr. Rusinek to conclude his comments. Chair LeVault thanked Mr. Rusinek for attending the meeting.

Chair LeVault recognized public comment from Ms. Dianne Barker, who said she is a resident of Phoenix and that she was sorry her mayor was not present. Ms. Barker spoke about her letter regarding what is MAG's jurisdiction and public comment. She stated that there is a difference between personal attacks and criticism and the Open Meeting Law says officials can respond to criticism. Ms. Barker stated that she believed MAG has taken steps forward on public comment. She stated that the City of Phoenix has a public comment period that is bifurcated from the agenda. Ms. Barker spoke of the trip reduction plan and dust that are under MAG's jurisdiction. She stated that the law says that 85 percent of staff in cities more than 50,000 in population should be on flex time from October to April. Ms. Barker added that this is part of a lawsuit by the Sierra Club. Chair LeVault thanked Ms. Barker for her comments.

#### 4. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Dennis Smith, MAG Executive Director, reported on items of interest to the MAG region. He stated that on November 10 to 11, 2014, MAG officials traveled to Hermosillo, Mexico, on a trade mission. He expressed appreciation to Ms. Alana Chavez-Langdon, MAG staff, for the outstanding job in organizing the trip.

Mr. Smith stated that the pilot program to co-locate Department of Public Safety officers at the Arizona Department of Transportation Traffic Operations Center was announced at a press conference on October 29, 2014. Mr. Smith noted that speakers included Chair Michael LeVault, Mayor Greg Stanton, the Federal Highway Administration Division Administrator Arizona Karla Petty, and Arizona Department of Transportation Director John Halikowski. Mr. Smith stated that program evaluation metrics are currently being developed.

Mr. Smith stated that member agency planner and economic development staff recently attended a workshop on MAG's economic development tools.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG recently hosted the Arizona Councils of Governments and Metropolitan Planning Organizations at a workshop on best practices for information technology, human resources, socioeconomic data, geographic information systems, and fiscal services.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG hosted a “meet and greet” that morning with representatives from Arizona's Trade and Investment Office in Mexico City, who are visiting the area. The purpose of this trip was to learn more about Arizona and further understand the interest MAG member agencies may have in promoting economic development opportunities in Mexico.

Mr. Smith stated that domestic violence will be discussed at two upcoming meetings – one in the West Valley on December 16, 2014, at the Rio Salado Communiversity in Surprise, and one in the East Valley on December 18, 2014, at the Southeast Regional Library in Gilbert. He stated that the purpose of the meetings is to discuss specific barriers and obstacles faced by domestic violence victims in the criminal justice process.

Mr. Smith announced that MAG had won the Virginia G. Piper Trust Encore prize for Exceptional Organization for exceeding traditional regional planning and launching the Arizona Age-Friendly Network. Mr. Smith noted that the goal is to connect older adults with people of all ages to meaningful opportunities in their communities. He stated that MAG is one of three agencies to win a \$5,000 prize. Benevilla won the \$5,000 prize and a \$50,000 prize. The award video was played. Mr. Smith stated that MAG staff will assist jurisdictions who would like to create their own Age-Friendly Network program.

Chair LeVault expressed his appreciation for the effectiveness and efficiency of staff.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chair LeVault noted that agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, #5G, #5H, #5I, #5J, #5K, and #5L were on the Consent Agenda.

Chair LeVault asked members if they had questions or requests to hear a Consent Agenda item individually. None were noted.

Chair LeVault called for a motion to approve Consent Agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, #5G, #5H, #5I, #5J, #5K, and #5L. Mr. Jack Sellers moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Vice Mayor Robin Barker seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

5A. Approval of the October 22, 2014, Meeting Minutes

The MAG Regional Council, by consent, approved the October 22, 2014, meeting minutes.

5B. Draft 2014 Annual Report on the Status of the Implementation of Proposition 400

Proposition 400, approved by the voters of Maricopa County in November 2004, authorized the extension of a half-cent sales tax for use on transportation projects in the MAG Regional Transportation Plan. Arizona Revised Statute 28-6354 requires that MAG issue an annual report on projects included in Proposition 400, addressing factors such as project status, funding, and priorities. The Draft 2014 Annual Report is the tenth report in the series and covers the status of the life cycle programs for freeways/highways, arterial streets, and public transit.

5C. Arterial Life Cycle Program Status Report - May 2014 through September 2014

The Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) is the financial management tool for the arterial street component of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Management of the program is guided by the ALCP Policies and Procedures, which were approved by the MAG Regional Council on May 28, 2014. The ALCP Policies and Procedures require that a status report is provided to MAG committee members to give an update on all project requirements and financial information. The ALCP Status Report has traditionally been published on a semiannual basis. The May 2014 through September 2014 Status Report is the first for FY 2015. The report provides information on the 46 projects scheduled for work and/or reimbursement this fiscal year. Of these 46 projects, 12 are in the design phase, five are in the right-of-way-acquisition phase, 27 are in the construction phase, and two are scheduled for reimbursement only. It is anticipated that 15 of these projects are or will be completed and open to traffic by July 1, 2015. Scheduled ALCP project reimbursements in FY 2015 total \$78.2 million. Federal funds comprise \$25.0 million of the total programmed reimbursements while the remaining balance of \$53.2 million is programmed with the half-cent sales tax allocated to arterial roads, known as the Regional Area Road Fund (RARF). Through August, actual RARF revenue collections in FY 2015 have totaled \$6.1 million, which is two percent higher than the October 2013 Arizona Department of Transportation revenue forecast. A list of ALCP Project Requirements received to date can be found on pages 4 and 5 of the ALCP Status Report. The report also provides additional detail on the status of projects, revenues, and other relevant program information.

5D. Acceptance of the Central Phoenix Transportation Framework Study

The MAG Regional Council, by consent, accepted the findings from the Central Phoenix Transportation Framework Study and the companion Downtown Phoenix Core Connections and Operations Study to inform development of the next generation of the Regional Transportation Plan; and to recommend the affected MAG member agencies within the Central Phoenix Transportation Framework Study area consider incorporating these findings into future updates of their general plans. On October 22, 2014, the MAG Regional Council received a report on the Central Phoenix Transportation Framework Study. The study identifies the long-range transportation needs for the center of the MAG region in an area bounded by SR-101L on the north, east, and west, and the Gila River Indian Community on the South. Since beginning the study in 2010, the study team has reached out to numerous representatives from the general public, MAG member agencies, and Valley Metro/RPTA. Through stakeholder meetings, geographic dialogues, two planning charrettes, and 14 Planning Partner events, the project has identified varying transportation opportunities to meet future travel demand and thereby inform development of

the NextGen Regional Transportation Plan. During the tenure of this project, study findings have been used to launch other major planning efforts for Metropolitan Phoenix, including the Southeast Corridor Major Investment Study, MAG's COMPASS (Corridor Optimization, Access Management Plan, and Systems Study) initiatives for US-60/Grand Avenue and 99th Avenue, the MAG Managed Lanes Network Development Strategy, and the Interstate 10/Interstate 17 Corridor Master Plan. The study findings were recommended for acceptance on October 23, 2014, by the MAG Transportation Review Committee, on November 5, 2014, by the MAG Management Committee, and on November 12, 2014, by the Transportation Policy Committee.

5E. Traffic Signal Optimization Program Recommendation of Projects for FY 2015

The MAG Regional Council, by consent, approved the list of Traffic Signal Optimization Program projects for FY 2015. The MAG Traffic Signal Optimization Program (TSOP) provides technical assistance to member agencies for improving traffic signal operations, and delivers training to agency staff via an annual workshop. Since its inception in 2004, the program has completed 101 projects affecting nearly 1,000 signalized intersections. On September 3, 2014, MAG announced a request for new TSOP projects for FY 2015. A total of 14 project applications was received. On October 7, 2014, the MAG Intelligent Transportation System Committee reviewed all applications and recommended nine of the proposed projects, plus two additional projects that would involve performing before-and-after evaluations and a workshop to provide training on traffic signal timing software. The execution of these projects would help improve traffic signal coordination along a number of major arterial corridors in addition to freeway-arterial coordination in the I-10 corridor. The budget available for new TSOP projects is \$300,000 and the total estimated cost for all 11 projects, which are to be carried out using MAG on-call consultants, is estimated to be \$303,000. The additional \$3,000 required will be met by remaining TSOP funds carried over from FY 2014. The 11 projects were recommended for approval on October 23, 2014, by the MAG Transportation Review Committee and on November 5, 2014, by the MAG Management Committee.

5F. MAG Public Involvement Progress Report

As part of its adopted public involvement process, MAG provides quarterly progress reports on public involvement activities to MAG policy committees for information and to convey input. MAG responds to all of the comments received as appropriate. The MAG public involvement process adheres to all federal requirements under the current federal transportation planning legislation and is dedicated to providing all of the region's residents and interested parties an opportunity to comment on transportation plans and programs.

5G. Status of Remaining MAG Approved PM-10 Certified Street Sweeper Projects That Have Not Requested Reimbursement

A status report is provided on the remaining PM-10 certified street sweeper projects that have received approval, but have not requested reimbursement. To address new Federal Highway Administration procedures to minimize inactive obligations and to assist MAG in reducing the amount of obligated federal funds carried forward in the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, we are

requesting that street sweeper projects for FY 2014 CMAQ funding be purchased and reimbursement requests be submitted to MAG by March 26, 2015. In addition, recently MAG was notified of another instance in which a street sweeper disposal occurred without Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) approval. ADOT procedures require that member agencies obtain ADOT approval prior to the disposal of a CMAQ-funded street sweeper.

5H. Update on the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest Lawsuit on the MAG 2012 Five Percent Plan for PM-10

On October 16, 2014, the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest filed a brief in the Center's lawsuit to challenge the Environmental Protection Agency's approval of the MAG 2012 Five Percent Plan for PM-10. The brief addresses exceptional events; Agricultural Best Management Practices Program; best available control measures and most stringent measures; and contingency measures. On September 24, 2014, the MAG Regional Council approved MAG's Washington, D. C., legal counsel to file a motion for MAG to intervene on behalf of the respondent in the lawsuit. On October 23, 2014, the Washington, D. C., legal counsel filed the MAG motion to intervene. MAG had been coordinating closely with Maricopa County on a potential joint motion to intervene. Since Maricopa County is a member of MAG, Maricopa County staff has indicated that the MAG motion already represents the interests of the MAG members on this matter. Maricopa County may seek authorization to file an Amicus Curiae brief in the event that such a brief is necessary and/or appropriate. On October 29, 2014, the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest filed in opposition to the MAG motion to intervene since it was filed late and they contend that the State and EPA can more than adequately represent any interest that MAG may have in this proceeding. On November 7, 2014, MAG's legal counsel filed a reply brief that emphasized how MAG has unique and substantial interests in the outcome of the litigation, the intervention would not prejudice the Petitioner's interests, and the court has discretion to grant its motion to intervene out of time. Previously, on September 24, 2014, the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals had granted the State's motion to intervene.

5I. Approval of the Draft July 1, 2014 Maricopa County and Municipality Resident Population Updates

The MAG Regional Council, by consent, approved the draft July 1, 2014 Maricopa County and Municipality Resident Population Updates provided that the Maricopa County control total is within one percent of the final control total. MAG staff has prepared draft July 1, 2014 Maricopa County and Municipality Resident Population Updates. The Updates, which are used to prepare budgets and set expenditure limitations, were prepared using the 2010 Census as the base and updated with housing unit data supplied and verified by MAG member agencies. Since there may be changes to the Maricopa County control total by the Arizona Department of Administration, on October 28, 2014, the MAG Population Technical Advisory Committee recommended approval of these draft Updates provided that the County control total is within one percent of the final control total. On November 5, 2014, the MAG Management Committee recommended approval.

5J. Proposed 2015 Edition of the MAG Standard Specifications and Details for Public Works Construction

The MAG Standard Specifications and Details for Public Works Construction represent the best professional thinking of representatives from many agency Public Works/Engineering Departments, and are reviewed and refined by members of the construction industry. They were written to fulfill the need for uniform rules for public works construction performed for Maricopa County and the various cities and public agencies in the county. It further fulfills the need for adequate standards by the smaller communities and agencies who could not afford to promulgate such standards for themselves. The MAG Standard Specifications and Details Committee has completed its 2014 review of proposed revisions to the MAG publication. A summary of these recommendations has also been sent to MAG Public Works Directors for review for a period of one month. The package sent to the MAG Public Works Directors included links to the Draft 2015 Revised Specifications and Details. This information is available online for review at the following internet address: <https://www.azmag.gov/Events/Event.asp?CMSID=6895>. If no objections to any of the proposed revisions have been suggested within the review time frame, then the proposed revisions will be regarded as approved and formal changes to the printed and electronic copies will be released. It is anticipated that the 2015 Edition of the Standard Specifications and Details for Public Works Construction will be available for purchase in January 2015.

5K. Appointment of the East Valley MAG Economic Development Committee Member Agency Position

The MAG Regional Council, by consent, approved the appointment of Mayor John Giles of the City of Mesa to the East Valley Economic Development Committee member agency position. In August 2013, the MAG Regional Council approved increasing the composition of the Economic Development Committee (EDC) to include eighteen MAG member agency positions that have one-year terms with possible reappointment by recommendation of the Executive Committee and approval of the MAG Regional Council. On August 27, 2014, the MAG Regional Council approved the appointments/reappointments of the member agency positions on the EDC to serve a one-year term. On October 8, 2014, Councilmember Alex Finter, City of Mesa, submitted a letter vacating his East Valley seat on the EDC. On October 14, 2014, a memorandum was sent to the MAG Regional Council members soliciting letters of interest for the East Valley EDC member agency position. One letter requesting consideration for the East Valley seat, from Mayor John Giles of the City of Mesa, was received. On November 17, 2014, the MAG Executive Committee recommended that Mayor Giles be appointed as a member of the EDC representing the East Valley.

5L. Continuum of Care Committee Governance Update

The MAG Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness has worked with a diverse array of partners to develop regional solutions to end homelessness. Each year, the expertise of the Committee and community partners has resulted in more people being housed and supported in their quest for stability. Staffed by the Maricopa Association of Governments since 1999, the Continuum of Care has successfully competed in the national application for funding, securing more than \$295 million. Over the years, the annual HUD funding award has increased and now supports more than 60 homeless assistance programs in 24 different agencies. This award has been an important and consistent source



of funding for the community. In response to the HEARTH Act, changes are being made to ensure we are in compliance with the federal requirements and to improve the efficacy of the Continuum of Care. These changes have been identified and championed by talented partners throughout the region and are described in the Governance Charter and Operating Policies, approved by the Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness on January 27, 2014. The Charter identifies the goals, purpose, composition, responsibilities and governance structure of the MAG Continuum of Care. The Continuum of Care Committee decision-making group has transitioned to be known as the Continuum of Care Board. The former Continuum of Care Planning Subcommittee, technical advisory group, is now called the Continuum of Care Committee. The governance changes to the Continuum of Care groups are presented for information purposes. Thanks to the dedication of the people involved, the Continuum of Care is positioned to continue making a difference in the lives of those who are homeless.

#### 6. Census Test 2015

Mr. Scott Wilken, MAG staff, reported that the U. S. Census Bureau has selected portions of the MAG region to conduct tests of collection technologies and sampling methods for the 2020 Census. He introduced Ms. Cathy Lacy, Regional Director of the U. S. Census Bureau in Denver.

Ms. Lacy stated that the Census Test 2015 is to research procedures and methods to streamline 2020 Census costs, to accomplish more with less. Ms. Lacy stated that no Internet option was available in the 2010 Census, but in the test conducted last year in Maryland, 58 percent of the respondents communicated their answers via the Internet.

Ms. Lacy stated that the most expensive element of a census is field staff going to houses that have not returned their census forms, which historically is approximately one-third of households. To increase efficiencies, the Census Bureau will be experimenting with computer-based training of staff, real-time caseload management by studying organizations such as UPS and FedEx to route workers more efficiently, testing Smartphone data collection and whether people would trust a Census worker using their own device, testing a new field management structure that could include one less level of supervision, and the possibility of using existing government data (such as IRS documents and birth and death records).

Ms. Lacy stated that the MAG region was chosen by the Census Bureau as the testing site because they were looking to test its re-engineered methodologies due to the area's diversity, mobility, and close proximity of urban, suburban, and rural sections. She noted that 1.6 million households, shown in green on the map at each place, will receive notification postcards in March 2015. Ms. Lacy added that many important decisions will be based on the results of the test.

Ms. Lacy then reviewed the Census Test timeline. She said that the office jobs have already been posted and the local Census office at 4000 N. Central Avenue in Phoenix will open on January 26, 2015. Ms. Lacy stated that there will be no advertising campaign. She stated that management team members are being hired this month and trained next month. As she mentioned earlier, the post card will be sent to 1.6 million households on March 23, 2015, the first contact of the public with the exception of recruiting. She noted that Census Day will be April 1, 2015, as usual. Ms. Lacy explained that

respondents can reply to the ten questions via the Internet through May 31, 2015. She noted that the Census Bureau anticipates hiring approximately 600 people for the 2015 test, however, this number could go down if the Internet and mail response is successful. Ms. Lacy stated that a questionnaire will be mailed to non-responders and after that, field staff follow-up visits will occur from May 15, 2015 through June 26, 2015.

Ms. Lacy stated that a test of the Bring Your Own Device will take place in July 2015 to gauge people's level of trust. She noted that to ensure safety, all data will be saved on the Cloud and nothing will be saved or can be accessed by individual devices. Ms. Lacy stated that the Phoenix Census office will be closed in mid-June 2015.

Ms. Lacy stated that numerous office and field job positions will be available. Ms. Lacy stated that some positions will work out of their homes. She noted that the jobs telephone line is 1-800-361-6891.

The jobs website is [http://www.census.gov/regions/denver/www/jobs/arizona\\_jobs.php](http://www.census.gov/regions/denver/www/jobs/arizona_jobs.php).

Ms. Lacy stated that local governments can assist by collaborating with the Denver Regional Office, spreading the word about job openings, and encouraging participation among their residents. She noted that a test in 2014 resulted in a 40 percent response rate.

Chair LeVault thanked Ms. Lacy for her report and asked members if they had questions.

Mayor Linda Kavanagh inquired about the ten questions that would be asked in the 2015 Census Test. Ms. Lacy replied that respondents would be asked non-intrusive questions, such as their name, address, household roster, relationship to those in the household, race, ethnicity, age, etc.

Mayor Kavanagh asked for clarification that legal status was not one of the questions. Ms. Lacy replied that was correct. She added that no data will be produced from the test. This test is to validate the new management structure, Internet options, etc.

Mayor Jim Lane asked if the test would include questions on citizenship or legal status. Ms. Lacy replied it would not. He noted that this is the same as the regular Census and is not an exception – it will ask who is residing in this particular household. Ms. Lacy replied that was correct.

Mayor Lane remarked that this might not be in the Census Bureau's realm, but could this data from the test be utilized for the calculation of state shared revenue. Ms. Lacy replied that the Census Bureau will not be publishing any of the data from the test. She noted the reason is that when a census or special census is being conducted, the Bureau ensures that all households are listed. In the 2015 Test, the Bureau will be using the households provided on an address list, which they will not be verifying or ensuring it is up to date. Therefore, it will not be a true count of residents. She noted that in addition, they are only counting portions of the MAG region.

Mayor Lane asked about any anticipated cost savings. Ms. Lacy replied that there are numerous components to cost savings, such as optimizing non-responsive households, Internet responses, and existing government records. She indicated that they will evaluate the processes used in the test. Mayor Lane asked if the process could have increased costs. Ms. Lacy replied that is always a possibility, however, they anticipate there will be significant cost savings.

Mayor Lane stated that security, reliability and the accuracy of data are important. Ms. Lacy stated that the test data will be compared to the government records data to determine accuracy and whether it would be a valid tool.

Councilmember Reg Monachino asked if a list of the data being requested from the IRS was available and would that data ultimately be available to the public. Ms. Lacy replied that they never release individual information and the information they do release is in statistical format. As far as the list of data being requested from the IRS, she could verify she was correct, but she believed the data to be requested were the categories she listed earlier – name, address, household roster, relationship to those in the household, race, ethnicity, age, etc.

Chair LeVault asked how the census ensures counts are not duplicative or counted in a place that is not their residence. Ms. Lacy noted that they are better able to do this during an actual census, however, there used to be a question asking the respondent to indicate if this was their usual place of residence (defined as more than six months out of the year). If they are going to use that question again, the data of the test and the American Community Survey could be compared to see if the outcome is comparable.

Chair LeVault asked if the only way to avoid someone being counted twice was a respondent answering questions honestly. Ms. Lacy noted that at the 2010 Census, the Bureau ran a check of name, age and race across the country and they would have to follow up on those seeming to be duplicates. She said that they will compare the data from the 2015 test with the 2010 American Community Survey.

7. Proposed Major Amendment to the MAG Regional Transportation Plan to Add the Light Rail Transit Extension on Central Avenue: Washington/Jefferson to Baseline Road

Ms. Eileen Yazzie, MAG staff, presented a report on the proposed major amendment to the MAG Regional Transportation Plan to add the light rail transit extension on Central Avenue: Washington/Jefferson to Baseline Road.

Ms. Yazzie explained that this was the second of three steps in the MAG committee process for approving this major amendment. The first step was the Regional Council approval of the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) of light rail for five miles on Central Avenue and of starting the major amendment process through the MAG committees. The major amendment process, by state statutes, requires the State Transportation Board, Regional Public Transportation Authority, and the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors to take action to approve or disapprove the requested amendment. Ms. Yazzie stated that MAG also consults with member agencies and the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee, who may offer comments. She noted that the State Transportation Board, Regional Public

Transportation Authority, and the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors recommended approval in September 2014.

Ms. Yazzie noted that today's action was to move forward the amendment and conduct an air quality conformity analysis. Ms. Yazzie noted that if the Regional Council approves step two, step three is anticipated to occur during April and May 2015 when the MAG committees will take action on the air quality conformity analysis and amendments to the Regional Transportation Plan.

Chair LeVault thanked Ms. Yazzie for her report and asked if there were questions.

Mayor Linda Kavanagh asked if overall light rail ridership data were available. Ms. Yazzie replied that she would forward data of the 20-mile starter segment and the projected ridership of the light rail transit extension on Central Avenue: Washington/Jefferson to Baseline Road. She added that ridership numbers are projected for the locally preferred alternative each time there is an extension of the light rail line.

Mayor Kavanagh stated that light rail is free to visitors to tourist areas in Salt Lake City. She asked if there was a similar program among hotels in this region to offer light rail passes. Ms. Yazzie replied that she was aware of an incentive offered by US Airways Arena to their ticket holders. She remarked that they might encourage hotels and tourist attractions to offer light rail passes.

Mayor Lane expressed his continued concern for using federal discretionary funds, which are in short supply. He stated that the City of Scottsdale has chosen not to use light rail component but to use buses. Mayor Lane commented on a concern to denigrate the availability of funding to other projects. He expressed concern that a policy change is being taken in effect to replace a successful bus line with a light rail line to get people out of cars and into light rail. Mayor Lane stated that Phoenix has reasons for implementing this alternative, however, he felt that using federal funding in this manner has a negative effect on funding for the rest of the system as federal funds become more limited.

Ms. Yazzie noted that the majority of light rail extensions are pursuing New Starts/Small Starts discretionary funds, for example, the Tempe Streetcar, Interstate 10 West, West Phoenix, and Downtown Glendale. Ms. Yazzie stated that 100 percent of the South Central light rail project is being funded with Phoenix sales tax revenue dedicated to transit. She added that this concern was also discussed at the Valley Metro Rail Board meeting. Ms. Yazzie stated that in addition to being locally funded, all light rail operations are paid by Tempe, Phoenix, Mesa, and in the future by Glendale. Mayor Lane expressed his appreciation for the explanation that clarified funding.

Mayor Thomas Schoaf stated that since there is not a formal way to request payment to ride light rail, how do we know the number of riders and the percentage of those who ride light rail without paying. Ms. Yazzie responded that there was significant fare evasion at the beginning of light rail operation, and Valley Metro took a very aggressive approach and revised its fare collection process, ticket validators and security. Ms. Yazzie remarked that currently, fare evasion is quite low and those paying are in the 95 percent range, if not higher. She added that she could get the final numbers.

Mayor Kavanagh asked if operations costs included the per rider subsidy. Ms. Yazzie replied that farebox recovery is a part of paying for the cost of operations. She indicated that she thought the farebox return rate for light rail was approximately 40 percent, which is quite high. Ms. Yazzie stated that the remainder is paid by the three cities of Tempe, Phoenix, and Mesa. She noted that added into this is a small amount from advertising.

Mayor Lana Mook stated that many cities have representatives who sit on the Valley Metro Boards. She suggested that summaries from their meetings on these types of issues could be helpful to those at MAG who might or might not have a Valley Metro representative.

Mr. Smith noted that if the Regional Council approves the requested amendment for an air quality conformity analysis, it will be back for the third step in the major amendment approval process. He stated that staff will work with Valley Metro to compile a list of Frequently Asked Questions to accompany the agenda packet.

Chair LeVault recognized public comment from Mr. Vint, who stated that he could not hear some of the discussion because people do not turn on their microphones. He noted that the Citizens Transportation Oversight Committee may provide comments and agenda item #5F is about citizen comments, but no one reported on citizen comments. Mr. Vint asked if people wondered what would happen if a city did not have citizens. He said that Dennis Smith thinks he is a czar and does not want him commenting. Chair LeVault informed Mr. Vint that he needed to keep his comments relevant to the agenda item and would not tolerate using the comment period for personal attacks. Mr. Vint said that he was commenting on the agenda item and suggested arresting him and putting him in jail. He stated that he did not give a (expletive). He had done his time in Korea. Mr. Vint stated that this light rail project going to Baseline Road is a disaster. He said that the light rail route on 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue is no better than when the project started, where businesses are being put out of business because of the construction. Mr. Vint stated that businesses along the South Central light rail route need to be asked what they need to survive during construction. He stated that citizens are the most important thing; everyone is a citizen and MAG would not be needed if there were not citizens. Chair LeVault thanked Mr. Vint for his comments.

With no additional comments, Chair LeVault called for a motion.

Mayor John Giles moved approval of the proposed major amendment to the Regional Transportation Plan to add a five (5) mile light rail transit (LRT) extension on Central Avenue: Washington/Jefferson to Baseline Road and that the Regional Transportation Plan be amended subject to the necessary air quality conformity analysis. Vice Mayor Robin Barker seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

8. MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility

Ms. Julie Hoffman, MAG staff, stated that the City of Glendale and Maricopa County have requested that the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan be amended to include the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. The facility would be located in the Glendale Municipal Planning Area and serve a portion of the Glendale Municipal Planning Area that includes unincorporated areas of Maricopa

County. Ms. Hoffman stated that the facility would have an ultimate capacity of eight million gallons per day. Reclaimed water would be disposed of through reuse, recharge, and a potential Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit discharge to Bullard Wash south of Litchfield Park via a below-ground pipeline; Roosevelt Irrigation District Canal south of Litchfield Park via a below-ground pipeline; and/or to the Agua Fria River via existing concrete lined stormwater channels.

Ms. Hoffman pointed out on a map the location of the area to be served by the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility and the jurisdictions that are located within three miles of area to be served by the facility. Ms. Hoffman noted that these jurisdictions include Avondale, Buckeye, El Mirage, Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Surprise, Youngtown, and Luke Air Force Base. She said the jurisdictions were requested to review the draft 208 Amendment and indicate no objections. Letters of no objection have been received from these jurisdictions with three of the letters including conditions. She added that the conditions are described in the transmittal summary in the agenda packet.

Ms. Hoffman noted the location of the Russell Ranch Water Reclamation Facility, which is a small facility in the Glendale Municipal Planning area that serves Russell Ranch. She explained that once the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility is operational, flows currently sent to the Russell Ranch Water Reclamation Facility would be redirected to the new facility and the Russell Ranch facility would be retired. Ms. Hoffman stated that if any delays occur in construction of the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility, short-term treatment capacity improvements may be implemented at the Russell Ranch facility as an interim treatment solution for the initial development. She added that the capacity of the Russell Ranch Water Reclamation Facility would not exceed the 400,000 gallons per day ultimate capacity currently identified in the MAG 208 Plan.

Ms. Hoffman reviewed the schedule of actions regarding the draft 208 Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. On May 21, 2014, the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee reviewed the draft 208 Amendment and authorized the public hearing. On August 21, 2014, the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee conducted a public hearing and immediately following the public hearing, the Committee had discussion and considered public comments received. Since there were some issues presented, the Committee tabled the draft 208 Amendment. Ms. Hoffman noted that following this, the relevant parties met and worked through the issues raised at the public hearing and meeting. She noted that a response to the public comments received was prepared. On October 21, 2014, the Water Quality Advisory Committee reviewed the response to comments and recommended approval of the Draft 208 Amendment, with one member voting no and one member abstaining. On November 5, 2014, the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of the draft 208 Amendment noting EPCOR's commitment to zero impact to Luke Air Force Base, with one member voting no. Ms. Hoffman noted that the amendment is before the MAG Regional Council today for action. She said that following the action of the Regional Council, the amendment would then go to the State Water Quality Management Working Group on December 9, 2014. The 208 Amendment would then be submitted by MAG to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, which would certify that the amendment is consistent with the MAG 208 Plan and State Water Quality Management Plan and submit it to the Environmental Protection Agency for approval. Ms. Hoffman mentioned that Mr. Frank Metzler from EPCOR Water was present to answer any questions.

Mayor Lana Mook stated that El Mirage's concern is with open air treatment of water and retention basins because they tend to attract birds. She expressed her understanding that this was addressed at the MAG Management Committee meeting and she added that she was glad Mr. Metzler was at the Regional Council meeting so that he could discuss the commitment by EPCOR. Mayor Mook stated that the City wants to ensure that there is zero impact to Luke Air Force Base from the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility and that Luke Air Force Base has the opportunity to approve the plan that addresses covering the water areas of the treatment facility. She also noted that the last two downed jets were due to birds and they do not want this facility to attract birds, which would impact Luke Air Force Base.

Mr. Frank Metzler, project manager from EPCOR Water Arizona, addressed the Regional Council. He said that EPCOR has been coordinating closely with Luke Air Force Base since day one of the MAG 208 Process for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility. Mr. Metzler stated that EPCOR is 100 percent committed to being a good neighbor and working in a cooperative fashion with Luke Air Force Base. He stated that EPCOR has solicited Luke's input on the siting of the facility, the design of the facility, and has asked Luke's input and guidance on how to design the facility to mitigate the possibility of bird strikes. Mr. Metzler stated that EPCOR has incorporated Luke's guidance and requirements into the design of the facility. He said that EPCOR is committed going forward during construction and operations to ensure that nothing they do will increase the possibility of bird strikes for Air Force activities. Mr. Metzler noted that the EPCOR plant will cost approximately \$50 million to \$60 million to construct, however, one Air Force jet costs approximately \$120 million, so they understand the issues at stake and take them very seriously.

Chair LeVault asked Mayor Mook if Mr. Metzler's remarks addressed her concerns. Mayor Mook indicated they did. No further questions from the Regional Council were noted.

Mayor Mook moved approval of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Amendment for the West Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility noting EPCOR's commitment to zero impact to Luke Air Force Base. Mayor John Lewis seconded, and the motion passed with Mayor Christian Price abstaining.

Chair LeVault noted that the City of Maricopa abstains because MAG By-Laws state that members of MAG that are in the Pinal County Area are entitled to vote on all matters coming before any meetings of its membership except those that are exclusive to the Maricopa County Boundary defined by State Law or through a planning designation by a Governor's Executive Order, including Section 208 Water Quality Management Planning. Mr. Smith noted that the three agencies participate in the Central Arizona Governments 208 water quality management planning process.

9. Resolution of Support for Acceleration of the SR-189 Project

Mr. Dennis Smith referenced the opening of the reconstructed Mariposa Port of Entry has received additional staffing through the efforts of Congressman Matt Salmon, among others. He explained how there is a bottleneck north of State Route 189 (SR-189), which also passes by a high school. Mr. Smith stated that the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has been working on an interchange

configuration needed to fix the bottleneck and has committed funds for environmental work and design. Mr. Smith stated that the Councils of Governments in Arizona have been discussing a resolution of support for accelerating the SR-189 project while holding harmless existing, currently programmed projects.

Mr. Smith stated that options for an acceleration could include creative financing or using funds from ADOT pavement preservation. He reported that SR-189 is contained in the draft ADOT Five-Year Transportation Facilities Construction Program and perhaps it could be reprioritized to the current five year program.

Mr. Smith explained that support for the Resolution is not a commitment by MAG for funding, but it says the interchange is essential to the economic vitality of the entire state of Arizona while holding harmless those projects currently programmed. Mr. Smith stated that this project will help all of Arizona. He said that transportation investments are made to improve the economy. He said that the goal is to move trucks as efficiently as possible in order to be competitive with other states, such as New Mexico and Texas.

Chair LeVault thanked Mr. Smith for his report and asked if there were questions.

Mayor Lane asked if the acceleration of the SR-189 project would be coordinated with the staffing and facility improvements that have already been made to speed up crossing at the port of entry. Mr. Smith replied yes, the port of entry was improved and given extra staffing, and addressing the bottleneck on SR-189 is the next step. He added that work also needs to be done on the Mexico side and he thought the resolution showed a good faith effort to make improvements on the U.S. side of the port and would they consider making improvements on the Mexico side. Mr. Smith stated that Mexico will be making \$1 billion in improvements to Highway 15. He indicated that he felt these combined improvements could increase the exports from Arizona.

Mayor Lane remarked that it is a matter of being collaborative that leads to the efficient use of these investments.

Mayor Schoaf asked if the City of Nogales supports the alternative build being presented. Mr. Smith replied that there are actually two or three alternatives. He noted the City of Nogales Council has approved a resolution of support for SR-189. Mayor Schoaf stated that approximately one year ago, he learned that the elected officials at the City of Nogales did not support all of the alternatives discussed by the state. He added that he felt MAG would want to put its efforts behind a solution to the problem, but also ensure respecting the desires of local government. Mr. Smith stated that the draft Resolution before the Regional Council was drafted by the SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization, which includes the City of Nogales. Mayor Schoaf acknowledged that he was satisfied as long as the Nogales concerns had been addressed.

Chair LeVault stated that after going through the port he witnessed a number of issues that result in intolerable delays at the border. He added that any investments will result in a vast improvement. With no further questions, Chair LeVault called for a motion.



Mayor Chuck Turner moved approval of supporting the draft resolution, requesting the respective Regional Planning Agencies to work cooperatively to jointly advocate to the Arizona Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, the State Transportation Board, Arizona's Congressional Delegation, the Arizona Legislature, and other public and private stakeholders, to explore additional funding, creative financing, and additional statutory flexibility in order to advance the construction of the preferred build alternative for State Route-189 into the ADOT Five-Year Transportation Facilities Construction Program while holding harmless those projects currently programmed therein. Mayor Tom Schoaf seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

10. Solicitation of Nominations for Business Representatives on the Transportation Policy Committee

Mr. Dennis Smith reported on appointments of the business representatives to the Transportation Policy Committee. With the passage of Proposition 400 on November 2, 2004, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives were authorized to appoint six business members to the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC). He added that State law also provides that the Chairman of the Regional Planning Agency may submit names to the President and Speaker for consideration.

Mr. Smith stated that on December 31, 2014, the terms of two of the TPC business members will expire. Construction is defined as “a company whose primary function consists of building freeways, highways or major arterial streets”; Regionwide business is defined as “a company that provides goods or services throughout the county.” Mr. Smith stated that the appointments will be made by President Andy Biggs.

Mr. Smith noted that on October 2, 2014, a memorandum was sent to MAG Regional Council members requesting possible names for consideration. Two letters were received and they were included in the Transportation Policy Committee agenda packet. Mr. Smith stated that one letter was for the construction seat (Mr. Todd F. Kinney of Okland Construction, submitted by Mayor Thomas Schoaf); one letter for the regionwide business seat (Mr. Steve Gervais of Land Advisors Organization, submitted by Mayor Georgia Lord). Mr. Smith reported that an additional letter for the construction seat was submitted following the Transportation Policy Committee meeting: Mr. Doug DeClusin of Sunland Asphalt, submitted by Mr. David Martin, Chair of Arizona Chapter Associated General Contractors. Mr. Smith noted that there are three names for two seats, and in the past, the Regional Council forwarded all names for consideration in the appointments. He added that MAG is not the final appointing body.

Chair LeVault thanked Mr. Smith for his report and asked Regional Council members for input.

Mr. Jack Sellers moved to approve having the Chair of the MAG Regional Council forward all three names for the two business seats on the Transportation Policy Committee to the President of the Arizona Senate for consideration. Councilmember Mike Farrar seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

11. Update on the Streamlining of the 208 Water Quality Management Plan Process

Ms. Julie Hoffman stated that on September 24, 2014, the Regional Council was briefed on efforts by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to streamline the 208 Water Quality Management Plan Process. ADEQ has proposed a streamlining approach that would result in the issuance of permits

for wastewater treatment facilities without first going through the MAG 208 Process and receiving Regional Council approval. Ms. Hoffman stated that several members of the Regional Council expressed concern on the ADEQ streamlining approach. These comments were gathered to be provided to ADEQ for the State Water Quality Management Working Group meeting on October 14, 2014, which was later canceled.

Ms. Hoffman noted that following the Regional Council meeting, in an effort of good diplomacy, MAG staff deferred on writing a letter and held a constructive, face-to-face meeting with ADEQ on October 1, 2014. At the meeting, MAG staff conveyed that the MAG member agencies do not want to jeopardize the integrity of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan process. Ms. Hoffman reported that ADEQ indicated that it has committed to reducing permitting time by 50 percent. ADEQ is trying to be more responsive to their customers, the regulated community. Ms. Hoffman stated that common ground was also discussed at the meeting, such as the importance of economic development. MAG staff agreed to work with ADEQ on streamlining options that would not jeopardize the integrity of the 208 Process.

Ms. Hoffman noted that on November 7, 2014, ADEQ conducted a strategy meeting with MAG and brought in a representative from the Governor's Government Transformation Office, Rob Woods, to discuss using the Lean approach in streamlining the 208 Process. She explained that the State has been using Lean to streamlining various processes. Ms. Hoffman noted that MAG staff arrived at the meeting prepared to discuss streamlining of the MAG 208 Process. At the start of the meeting ADEQ acknowledged that this time they would be applying Lean to an organization other than its own. As a result, they had met with the facilitator from the Governor's Office the day before the strategy meeting to discuss it.

Ms. Hoffman noted that at the November 7, 2014, strategy meeting, ADEQ indicated that the whole process needs to be studied. She reported that ADEQ indicated that they want to look at the process, starting when the utility first decides that they want to build a plant, when the utility approaches the local government, to see what goes on at the city level. They would then go through the MAG process and ADEQ process. Ms. Hoffman noted that this was a departure from what was discussed previously, which was to streamline the MAG 208 Process, and MAG staff indicated that they would need to report back to the MAG Executive Director.

Ms. Hoffman noted that ADEQ also indicated at the meeting that they would like to see 208 pushed closer to planning and zoning since it is duplicative, which is not the case. She said that ADEQ indicated it would like to get a group of developers together to look at how the process is conducted in the cities. The technical people would get together and map out the entire process over the course of a day and a half, which would be a shortened version of the Lean process. Ms. Hoffman noted that leadership would be brought in at the end to review.

Ms. Hoffman stated that ADEQ indicated that they streamlined the Aquifer Protection Permit Process in 2012 and in the first year they met the five year goal of reducing permitting time by 50 percent.

Ms. Hoffman noted that MAG staff conducted additional research on how long the MAG 208 Process has taken for the twenty-two 208 Amendments that have been approved in the past 12 years. She stated that the MAG 208 Process, which begins with the first Water Quality Advisory Committee meeting and then to Regional Council approval, takes approximately three months. Ms. Hoffman stated that this was communicated to ADEQ and the representative from the Governor's Office.

Ms. Hoffman stated that at the November 7th meeting, Rob Woods from the Government Transformation Office recognized that an agency is able to streamline without using Lean. In addition, he stated that Lean does not stress one size fits all. He also noted that Lean is a mechanical process and not suited to create policy.

Ms. Hoffman stated that following the November 7th meeting, MAG staff contacted ADEQ and indicated that given the discussion at the strategy meeting, MAG would be streamlining its 208 Process to make it more efficient. She said that MAG staff is envisioning a small group of cities and towns, Maricopa County, a private utility representative, a homebuilder representative, and ADEQ to assist with streamlining the process. Ms. Hoffman stated that MAG will also invite the representative from the Governor's Office to the meeting. She added that this process will begin after the first of the year.

Chair LeVault thanked Ms. Hoffman for her report and asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Smith mentioned an article he had read about the length of time it takes to get a subdivision going in the State of Arizona compared to the State of Texas. He stated that Texas is doing this more quickly than Arizona. Mr. Smith stated that MAG does not control any city process and the jurisdictions could look at their own internal process. He stated that the homebuilding industry has fallen on hard times and a best practice could be developed, looking at the 208 Process from beginning to end, to be more competitive. MAG could work on its own piece and remain open-minded to looking at the whole process and not just the MAG piece.

Mayor Lane expressed his appreciation for this approach and added that each city needs to look at its own process. He said that it might take time, but beginning the conversation is beneficial.

Mayor Schoaf asked if tools in the Lean process will be used for streamlining the 208 process. Ms. Hoffman replied that the Governor's Government Transformation Office has been using the Lean process for various state process improvements. She mentioned that they had a discussion on the Lean process at the November 7th strategy meeting.

Mayor Schoaf asked if a representative from the Governor's Office would assist with the Lean elements. Ms. Hoffman noted that he would be invited to the meetings. Mayor Schoaf stated that he has more than a decade of experience with Lean tools and he advised that someone trying to use the Lean tools who is not an expert in how the tools work can become frustrated and it might not necessarily produce the best results. Mayor Schoaf recommended having someone trained in the Lean tools facilitate the meetings and it is also a good idea to have staff trained on the Lean process.

Chair LeVault asked if Lean was an acronym. Mayor Schoaf replied that Lean is a word that summarizes tools that were developed in industry. It was originally Lean manufacturing, but can be known by other names at various companies. Mayor Schoaf described the concept as referring to a series of methodologies that analyze processes and improving them by remove things that do not add value.

12. Legislative Update

No report was needed.

13. Request for Future Agenda Items

Topics or issues of interest that the Regional Council would like to have considered for discussion at a future meeting were requested.

No requests were noted.

14. Comments from the Council

An opportunity will be provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Mr. Smith acknowledged Sarath Joshua, MAG staff, for his dedication on the implementation of the pilot program of Department of Public Service officers being onsite at the Arizona Department of Transportation Traffic Operations Center. He remarked that this project could result in saving lives. Mr. Smith stated that this project demonstrated that one person can make a difference.

Chair LeVault congratulated Mayor Price on his new baby.

Mayor Kavanagh referenced the letter to Supervisor Barney regarding the mulch fire burning in the West Valley. The letter stated that the fire would be allowed to burn itself out and that the air pollution was awful. She asked if MAG had any jurisdiction or involvement on this.

Mr. Smith consulted with MAG General Counsel, Ms. Fredda Bisman, to ask if Ms. Lindy Bauer, MAG staff, could address the Regional Council if there was no discussion.

Ms. Bisman replied that MAG could send a written statement to the Regional Council after the meeting or place the item on a future agenda.

Mayor Georgia Lord noted that the West Valley Mayors will be meeting on this topic because there were a number of questions on the process. She noted that a conference call of the county, mayors and staff took place on December 1 to form a platform.

Mr. Smith stated that Ms. Bauer could attend the meeting if appropriate.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary